

# ***NEWS UPDATE***

**Shelby County Office of Preparedness-Memphis & Shelby County  
Emergency Management Agency-Bob Nations, Director**

**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER  
(901) 515-2525**



**September 4, 2008**

**Morning Update**

## **What's New Since the Last Update?**

- Evacuees in Memphis area shelters had a quiet night are anxious to get back to their homes.

## **When Will FEMA-assisted evacuees who arrived by train go home?**

- There's a plan for the return of two groups of evacuees, the group staying at shelters in Jackson and Lavinia, Tennessee and the group of evacuees staying in Memphis.
- Here are the latest departure schedules:

## **West Tennessee FEMA-assisted evacuees**

Evacuees staying in Jackson, Tennessee and Lavinia, Tennessee will be brought to Memphis by bus and taken to the Amtrak station for departure. **Only those evacuees will be allowed on board tonight.** They'll be fed before they leave and receive a boxed dinner for the trip home.

## **Memphis FEMA-assisted evacuees**

Evacuees will leave on Amtrak train tomorrow night (Friday, September 5). Evacuees are to **STAY at the shelter** until it's time to board buses to go to the train station. Evacuees will be fed prior to departure and given a boxed meal for the ride home.

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- **Here are some helpful numbers provided by the *Louisiana Recovery Authority*:**

- 1. Safe Return to Parish:** Call 1-866-288-2485 or log on to [emergency.louisiana.gov](http://emergency.louisiana.gov).
- 2. Road Closures:** 1-888-762-3511 (out-of-state) or 511(in-state).
- 3. Find family in a shelter:** 1-800-957-1601.
- 4. Sheltered Pet Information:** 1-800-558-9741
- 5. Food Stamp Questions:** 1-888-524-3578
- 6. Report Price Gouging:** 1-800-351-4889

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**Almost 3000 evacuees remain in 22 Memphis area shelters. Seven (7 ) shelters are for FEMA-assisted evacuees only who arrived in Memphis by Amtrak train. Fifteen (15) additional shelters are serving evacuees:**

1. Lester Community Center-317 Tillman
2. Hollywood Community Center-1560 North Hollywood
3. Hope Presbyterian Church-8500 Walnut Grove Road
4. White Station Church of Christ-1101 Colonial Road
5. Bellevue Baptist Church-2000 Appling Road
6. Goodman Oaks Baptist Church-1700 Goodman Road, Southaven, Mississippi
7. Longview Heights Baptist Church-4501 Goodman Road, Olive Branch, Mississippi
8. Southaven Multipurpose Arena-7360 Highway 51, Southaven, Mississippi
9. World Overcomers Outreach Ministries Church-6655 Winchester Road at Kirby Parkway
10. First Baptist Church of West Memphis, Arkansas-200 Missouri Street
11. Memphis Catholic High School-61 North McLean
12. Bishop Byrne High School-1475 East Shelby Drive
13. Cummings Street Baptist Church-250 East Raines Road
14. G.W. Henderson Senior Center-1165 Abbay Street, Tunica, Mississippi
15. Marion First Baptist Church-2137 Highway 77 Marion, Arkansas

**Local numbers to call for help and information:**

- 1. 211 LINC Line (Memphis Public Library and Information Center)**
- 2. (901) 324-8799 (answered from 9 a.m. through 5 p.m.)**
- 3. (901) 515-2525 EMA Operations Command Center. This number is answered 24 hours a day.**

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### **A Word About Shelters**

► **Should faith-based organizations want to open a shelter, the Emergency Operations Center should be contacted. The shelter will be listed along with the others in the daily updates to the community. Also, any facility opened as a shelter should be inspected to ensure it meets building and fire codes.**

### **DONATIONS NEEDED**

- **Personal care items**-toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, hairbrushes, combs, etc.
- **Baby supplies**-baby food, baby wipes, diapers
- **Entertainment items for children**-crayons, coloring books, poster boards, etc.
- **Food**-canned or prepackaged items are being accepted

Donations may be dropped off at a warehouse at 994 South Bellevue between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Volunteers:** Volunteers are **NEEDED** to help during the relief effort to work at area shelters seeing the needs of evacuees and serving food. MIFA also needs help building travel kits for the FEMA-assisted evacuees who will leave Memphis by Amtrak train. Call the volunteer hotline **(901) 324-8799** between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. for information or the 211 Library LINC.

**Pets:** Only “service dogs” are permitted in the shelter. The Memphis Humane Society-935 Farm Road and the Collierville Animal Shelter-603 East South Street are boarding pets for evacuees.

**Food:** The Memphis City Schools and many area churches are also serving food at shelters.

**Transportation:** Provided by Memphis Area Transit Authority (MATA) buses.

**Area attractions:** Many tourist attractions are discounting rates or allowing free admission for evacuees. Contact the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau at **(901) 543-5375**.

**Crime victims:** Evacuees who are victims of crime may call the Shelby County Victims Assistance Center at **(901) 543-HELP (4357)** from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The center is located at 600 Adams Avenue.

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The Shelby County Office of Preparedness/EMA Operations Center is open 24 hours a day. For additional information, call **(901) 515-2525**.

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